

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL  
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY  
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II  
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)  
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

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Date of mailing (day/month/year)  
02 March 2006 (02.03.2006)

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
FP04-0011-00

**IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION**

International application No.  
PCT/JP2004/004211

International filing date (day/month/year)  
25 March 2004 (25.03.2004)

Applicant

HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS K.K. et al

**1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.**

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

**2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.**

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

**3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).**

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
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Authorized officer

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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FP04-0011-00	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/004211	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 25 March 2004 (25.03.2004)	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 27 March 2003 (27.03.2003)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS K.K.		

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 *bis*.1(a).
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.  
  
In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44*bis*.3(c) and 93*bis*.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44*bis* .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Date of issuance of this report 22 February 2006 (22.02.2006)
Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Authorized officer  <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Yoshiko Kuwahara</div>
Telephone No. +41 22 338 90 90	

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

Translation

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

## PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

**FP04-0011-00**

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

**PCT/JP2004/004211**

International filing date (day/month/year)

**25.03.2004**

Priority date (day/month/year)

**27.03.2003**

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

**HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS K.K.**

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- |                                     |              |  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I    | Basis of the opinion   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. II   | Priority   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. III  | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. IV   | Lack of unity of invention   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V    | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VI   | Certain documents cited  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VII  | Certain defects in the international application   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application  |

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/004211

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material  
☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/004211

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2-16, 8-14	YES
	Claims	1, 7	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	2, 3	YES
	Claims	1, 4-14	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 57-42175 A (Fujitsu K.K.), 09 March, 1982  
Document 2: JP 2003-86826 A (Hamamatsu Photonics K.K.), 20 March, 2003  
Document 3: JP 6-350068 A (Hamamatsu Photonics K.K.), 22 December, 1994  
Document 4: JP 5-121711 A (NEC Corp.), 18 May, 1993

Claim 1

Document 1 (Fig. 2 and its explanatory portions) discloses providing opposite conductivity type layers 11a ~ 14a on the opposite side of a substrate 10 surface onto which light shines, and also on a substrate 10, providing a recess 10 on the surface onto which light enters of the substrate 10.

Claim 4

Document 2 discloses technology for providing a channel stopper layer between photodiodes, and employing this technology in the invention of document 1 could easily be achieved by a person skilled in the art.

Claim 5

Document 2 and 3 disclose technology for providing an accumulation layer of the same conductivity type as a substrate on the substrate surface onto which light shines, and employing this technology in the invention of document 1 could easily be achieved by a person skilled in the art.

Claim 6

Document 4 (Fig. 1 and its explanatory portions) discloses technology for making a hole 6 in the surface opposite to the substrate surface onto which light shines, and providing a light receiving section in the bottom of the hole 6. Employing this technology in the invention of document 1 could easily be achieved by a person skilled in the art.

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of Box V. 2:

Claim 7

This examination finds that, in view of its composition of photodiode arrays, document 1 (Fig. 2 and its explanatory portions) discloses a step that provides layers 11a-14a of the opposite conductivity type as a substrate on the surface opposite to the substrate surface onto which light shines, and a step that provides recesses 31-34 on the other surface of the substrate.

Claim 8, 10

Document 3 (Fig. 22 and its explanatory portions) discloses an invention wherein after forming recesses on the substrate surface onto which light shines, an accumulation layer 29 of the same conductivity type as the substrate is formed. Employing this technology in the invention of document 1 could easily be achieved by a person skilled in the art.

Claim 9

Document 4 (Fig. 1 and its explanatory portions) discloses a step for making a hole 6 in the surface opposite to the substrate surface onto which light shines, and a step for providing a light receiving section at the bottom of the hole 6, and employing these steps in the invention of document 1 could easily be achieved by a person skilled in the art.

Claim 11

Document 2 discloses technology for providing a channel stopper layer between photodiodes, and employing this technology in the invention of document 1 could easily be achieved by a person skilled in the art.

Claim 12-14

Document 2 (Fig. 5 and its explanatory portions) discloses an invention for providing a scintillator on the substrate surface onto which light shines, and employing this invention in the invention of document 1 could easily be achieved by a person skilled in the art.

Claim 2, 3

Linking adjacent recesses to one another is not described in document 1-4; nor is this obvious to a person skilled in the art.